

Mayor Matthew A. Pacifico

Monthly Update - November 2017



The holiday season is fast-approaching, which means numerous holiday celebrations and parties. According to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), some of the most dangerous roadway days of the year occur between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

This year marks MADD's 30th anniversary of the designated driver and "Tie One On For Safety" public awareness campaign, aimed at encouraging never getting behind the wheel if you have been drinking and always designating a non-drinking driver.

In the spirit of the campaign, MADD encourages everyone this holiday season to display a red ribbon in a visible location to remind others to always designate a non-drinking driver.

Not only is drinking and driving a crime, but it can be deadly. Help keep this holiday season safe and always designate a non-drinking driver or ensure alternate transportation if you have been drinking.

To learn more about the "Tie One On For Safety" campaign, please visit: <https://www.madd.org/the-solution/drunken-driving/tie-one-on-for-safety/>



December 1 Deadline: Applications for City's Talent Bank

Calling all residents! The City of Altoona is currently accepting applications for the City's various committees and boards.

To view the various committees and boards available to serve on, and to

download an application, please visit www.altoonapa.gov or click on the text box below.

Applications are due by Friday, December 1st and can be submitted to the City Clerk's Office, Altoona City Hall, 1301 12th Street, Suite, Altoona, PA 16601, phone #949-2486, fax #949-2411, email: cityclerk@altoonapa.gov.

Talent Bank Application

Magee-Women's Specialty Center Ribbon Cutting

Mayor Pacifico was on-hand for the grand opening of UMPC Altoona's new Magee-Women's Specialty Center on October 2nd. Located in the Station Medical Center, the new Center will provide enhanced and comprehensive breast health services, including mammograms, breast ultrasounds, breast biopsies, and genetic counseling.



The new Magee-Women's Specialty Center located at Station Medical Center.



City officials, hospital personnel, and local dignitaries attend the grand opening of the new center.

Help Those in Need This Holiday Season

The Thanksgiving Holiday only a few short weeks, and there are those in the community who are in need. Below, please find a list of places that are accepting food donations and/or providing free meals during the holiday:

Food Donations

- Family Services, Inc. is accepting donations of non-perishable food items and frozen meats, which will be distributed to their Teen Center, Domestic Violence Center, and Homeless Center. To ensure that donations can be used in the days prior to and proceeding Thanksgiving, it is kindly requested that food donations not be specifically "Thanksgiving-themed."
- Donations can be dropped off at **Family Services, Inc., 2020 Broad Ave., Altoona, PA from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Free Thanksgiving Dinner

- Archway Ministries Christian Church is once again offering a free Thanksgiving meal for individuals in need. The meal will take place on **Thursday, November 23, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Church (401 5th Avenue, Altoona, PA)**. Individuals do not need to be members of the church to attend nor do they need to preregister.
- Additionally, Archway Ministries will be offering delivery Thanksgiving meals to individuals who are shut-in on Thanksgiving Day. **If you would like a meal, you can contact the Church at 814-937-5105.** You will need to sign up for the Thanksgiving meal service prior to Thanksgiving so that the Church has an accurate count.
- The Altoona Women's Club will be hosting its Annual Thanksgiving Day lunch on **Thursday, November 23, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the St. Vincent dePaul Soup Kitchen (2201 Union Avenue, Altoona, PA).**

Mayor Pacifico Visits State Capitol

Mayor Pacifico spent the day at the State Capitol in Harrisburg on October 24th. He met with Senator John Rafferty, Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, to discuss autonomous vehicles, the importance of the new technology and innovation, and future partnerships and opportunities for the City of Altoona.

Additionally, Mayor Pacifico had the opportunity to meet three players with the Philadelphia Eagles (Torrey Smith, Malcolm Jenkins and Chris Long) who were also at the State Capitol to advocate on behalf of the Clean Slate Act (Senate Bill 529). This act would automatically seal certain low-level, non-violent misdemeanor convictions after 10 years in the hopes of reducing the recidivism rates. SB529 recently passed the PA Senate unanimously and is

currently in the House for a vote.

The trio are part of The Players Coalition, which looks to improve the relationship between police officers and the community.



From Left to Right: Torrey Smith, Malcolm Jenkins, Mayor Matt Pacifico, and Chris Long.

To read SB529, the Clean Slate Act, in its entirety, please click the link below:

[Clean Slate Act](#)

Mayor Pacifico Elected 2nd VP of PML

Mayor Matt Pacifico has been elected to serve as the 2nd Vice President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League (PML). He was elected during the association's Annual Business Meeting held in conjunction with the PML 118th Annual Summit at the Bayfront Convention Center in Erie, October 5-7. He will serve as 2nd VP for a one-year term on the PML Board of

Directors.

The mission of the PML is to strengthen, empower and advocate for effective local government. PML is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1900 as an advocate for Pennsylvania's 3rd class cities. Today, PML represents Pennsylvania's cities, townships, town, boroughs, and home rule communities that all share the League's municipal policy interests. The Board of Directors oversees the administration of a wide array of municipal services including legislative advocacy (on both the state and federal levels), publications designed to educate and inform, inquiry and research, education and training certification programs, consulting-based programs, and group insurance trusts.

Mayors from across Pennsylvania were in Erie in early October to connect and network with colleagues, attend informational and educational sessions, discuss issues facing the Commonwealth's municipalities, share resources and best practices, establish legislative policy, and elect officers and members of the PML Board of Directors for the coming year.

2017 Spirit of Christmas Parade

Altoona will once again be holding its annual Spirit of Christmas Parade, presented by Burgmeier Hauling. The parade will take place on Thursday, November 30th at 6PM in Downtown Altoona.

The parade will feature marching bands and floats, an appearance by Santa Claus, a tree lighting ceremony, and a fireworks display.

For information on how your group or organization can enter the parade, please contact Rachel at 814-944-6113 or rachelp@abcdcorp.org.



City Council Meeting - November

City Council will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 8th at 7:00PM. The meeting will take place at City Council Chambers, 1320 Washington Avenue.

To view the full schedule for City Council meetings for the remainder of the year, click [here](#):

2017 City Council Meetings

Fire Safety at Penn-Lincoln Elementary

On October 23rd, Mayor Pacifico attended a fire safety program for the students at Penn-Lincoln Elementary. October is National Fire Prevention Month, and as such, the Altoona Fire Department (AFD) visits the local schools to talk about fire prevention and safety.

Each year, there is a specific theme to help educate kids on Fire Prevention. This year's theme is "Every Second Counts. Plan 2 Ways Out!" Firefighters with AFD teach the students about fire prevention and what to do if their home catches on fire; they talked about what firefighters do, what they wear, and the equipment that they use; and they teach the kids about the importance of "Stop, Drop, and Roll."

Additionally, "Sparky the Fire Dog," the fire prevention mascot, was on hand to meet the kids and help get the message out about "Every Second Counts. Plan 2 Ways Out!"



From Left to Right: AFD firefighters talk to Penn-Lincoln students about their fire equipment they use; Area Firefighters with "Sparky the Fire Dog;" and Logan Township Fire Service's mobile safety truck, which helps educate students on fire prevention and safety.

The National Fire Prevention Association conducts a public education campaign for Fire Prevention Week (October 8-14, 2017) and National Fire Prevention Month. Below, please find necessary safety tips to help educate your child in a fire emergency situation and develop an escape plan:

- Draw a map of your home by **using the grid below (Click button below)** with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for

the fire department to find.

- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

Home Fire Escape Plan

ZombieTown USA

A HUGE thank you to all who participated in and attended the 2nd Annual ZombieTown USA event in Downtown Altoona in early October. A very special thanks to Chris Peters and Lori Houck, of Nova6 Marketing, who were the architects and masterminds behind ZombieTown USA. It was their tireless dedication and determination that made the event such a success!

Thousands of individuals came downtown to participate in the various ZombieTown events, including the concerts, Zombie Run, craft fair, nerf zone, dressing as zombies, and Halloween Parade. The Halloween parade was the star of the show, boasting the largest parade crowd in Altoona's history.

Planning is already underway for next year's event and we look forward to participating!



Two of our young residents get into the zombie spirit and show off their best zombie makeup.



Incredible photo of the Halloween Parade.
(Photo courtesy of Tim Boyles Photography
- <http://www.timboylesphotography.com/>)



Halloween Parade procession along 11th Avenue in Downtown Altoona.



Area kids protecting the City against a zombie invasion in the Nerf Zone. The zone was hosted by the Altoona Nerf Club.

Because We Care Foundation Gala

The Because We Care Foundation will be holding its Annual Gala on November 11, 2017 at 6:00p.m. at the Bavarian Hall, 112 S. 13th Street, Altoona, PA.

Because We Care is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide personalized teddy bears to local law enforcement officers, so they can provide them to children in the community who might need them during a difficult time.

For more information, please visit the Because We Care Facebook at www.facebook.com/BecauseWeCareAltoona/ or contact Jessica DiGennaro, President, at [814-515-3472](tel:814-515-3472) or becausewecarealtoona@yahoo.com.

Because We Care Foundation

Mayor Matthew A. Pacifico

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